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Hadassah on the move: Neri Bloomfield

By MARK MEDICOFF
CJN Quebec Bureau Chief

MONTREAL -

Once relegated to the back rooms of executive meetings, women are now making their mark on the decision-making bodies of most communal organizations. This move has not come about as a result of the gallant efforts of a few male leaders, but by the applied pressure of determined women.

Such a woman is Neri Bloomfield, 47, who is soon to be the youngest president-elect of Canadian Hadassah, one of the largest women's organizations in Canada, a chapter in World Hadassah-WIZO.

Mrs. Bloomfield, wife of Bernard M. Bloomfield, president of the Jewish National Fund of Canada is an attractive and articulate leader who carries an air of certainty, and whose entrance into a hall filled with women is invariably noticed.

She became involved in Hadassah in 1948, as national chairman of Child's Day and climbed the ladder of the leadership to become Hadassah's current Dominion vice president. She has held terms of office in 11 other organizations, including chairman of Women's division group, Combined Jewish Appeal, and the Opera Guild.

In 1919, Hadassah was launched as an organization appealing to fellow "Sisters of Israel" from coast to coast with two objectives: Aid to Palestine and relief for European Jewry.

Hadassah Special Edition
Additional stories, pages 2, 3 and 4

Now 54 years old, with over 16,000 women in the ranks, Hadassah moves into the 70's with new leadership and similar objectives.

Mrs. Bloomfield maintains, quite adamantly, that she expects Hadassah women to be included in top-level discussions in the FZOC and the Canadian Jewish Congress.

"Women have a right to equal billing and a bigger role in the decision-making processes of these organizations.

"Women have the same education as men, and can give more of their attention to communal projects than men - simply because men can only give their time during the evening, while women can participate during the day."

Mrs. Bloomfield adds that there are many top lawyers, doctors, teachers and business women in the executive and rank and file of Hadassah.

"Women," she affirms, "must take an equal share in the running of the world, and we should be judged by our ability, not our age, our sex, or our looks."

Born in Bucharest, her Jewishness was kindled by her grandfather whom she describes "as the tycoon of the Roumanian Jewish community," and from him she developed a burning passion for Jews and Israel. As a child she studied in England, avoiding settlement in Israel because of the 1936-37 riots. At age 17, she came to Canada, enrolled in McGill University, and married.

The controversy concerning Hadassah's involvement in the recent Zionist elections was irritating, says Mrs. Bloomfield, who maintains she had nothing to do with Hadassah's participation in the Zionists of the Seventies Party.

"During my term," she said curtly, "we will be keeping completely out of it."

Hadassah, she added, is a non-political organization, although Hadassah members are automatically registered in the FZOC with full voting rights.

She considers the number of Hadassah members to be a problem her tenure will deal with.

continued on page 2

Neri Bloomfield, Hadassah president-elect.

The Canadian Jewish news
Friday, January 7, 1972 20 Teves 5732 15¢

Germaine at the Western Wall

Eskimo designs posters for El Al

By PAUL OGDEN
CJN Staff Reporter

A young Eskimo artist has recently completed a poster for El Al Israel Airlines and has plans, with El Al's blessings, to do at least two more.

Germaine Arnaktauyok, a resident of Frobisher Bay on Baffin Island in Canada's Northwest Territories, was flown to Israel recently for a special one-week visit.

In a microwave telephone interview, Germaine told The CJN that she was very impressed with Israel, and with the old city of Jerusalem in particular. "I especially liked the Tower of David in the Old City.

"At first," she continued, "I thought the trip was some kind of joke. Then I found out they really wanted me to go to Israel. It was my first time out of Canada and I would like to go back sometime."

Germaine was born in Iglootik, the oldest known Eskimo settlement in the Northwest Territories. Showing great promise as an artist at an early age, she received a government sponsorship to attend the University of Manitoba on a two-year fine arts course and Commerical Art at Algonquin College in Ottawa.

During the summer months, she worked for the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, illustrating everything from magazine covers to primary school readers. She also illustrated the first Eskimo novel, **Harpoon of the Hunter**, by Markoosie.

El Al had been looking for "something uniquely Canadian" and yet also presenting a facet of Israel to commemorate the establishment of a direct air link between the two countries. Hearing about the talented Eskimo artist, Joram Kagan, general manager of El Al in Canada, sought her out to design the poster.

It took Kagan some time to locate Germaine and complete the details of her trip, but the final result - a most impressive poster - was certainly worth the wait.

Fortifications expensive

Huge military outlay revealed by Dayan

JERUSALEM -

Israel has spent $500 million on fortifying its military lines and border settlements, Defence Minister Moshe Dayan disclosed here in an address to members of the crack Golani Brigade.

Half of this sum was spent on the sector facing the Egyptian front and the rest divided between the northern and central fronts, Dayan told the brigade, which has just concluded intensive winter maneouvres.

The defence minister revealed the huge military spending program in the course of an address in which he said he knew of no time more ripe than the present for negotiations towards a settlement with Egypt. But if Egypt's choice is war, he warned, she would find Israel ready for any eventuality.

It is believed here that Dayan deliberately leaked the size of Israel's investment on fortifications so as to let Egypt know the extent of this country's military preparedness.

Meanwhile, Israeli Galili, minister without portfolio, has embarrassed the Foreign Ministry with a speech in which he told a group of government workers that in the cabinet's view, significant changes must be made in the 1967 boundaries in any peace treaty with the Arabs. Galili, a Labor Party leader close to Premier Golda Meir, said that Israel does not need to remain on the Suez Canal or occupy all of Sinai after peace is concluded, but that a retreat to the old international boundaries with Egypt is out of the question.

Foreign Ministry sources quickly issued a statement stating that Foreign Minister Abba Eban considers his latest speeches to the UN General Assembly and Israel's official reply to the peace mission of African heads of state to be the only authoritative expression of Israel's position. All other reports (presumably Galili's included) should be dismissed as "guesswork and speculation."

Influx strains housing

TEL AVIV (JTA) -

The immigration of Jews from the Soviet Union has increased to such an extent that it is putting a severe strain on Israel's housing resources, Absorption Ministry circles said here.

Louis Pincus, chairman of the Jewish Agency, told a Labor Party meeting that 2,000 Soviet Jewish emigres have arrived so far this month. He estimated that the total Jewish immigration from the Soviet Union this year would be about 12,000.

Absorption Ministry officials said that if the present rate of influx continues, it may be necessary to temporarily house two childless families in a single three room flat. They said that arrangement would continue until smaller flats are made available for couples without children.

About one-third of the emigres come from the Soviet Georgian Republic, but the focal point of emigration will soon shift further eastward, according to Gen. Uzzi Narkiss, director of the Jewish Agency's immigration department. Narkiss said that Jews from Bokhara in Central Asia may be the next group allowed to leave Russia in large numbers. His remarks confirmed a report from Moscow published here last week by the Soviet journalist Victor Louis that Bokharan Jews would follow the Georgians.

Louis, in a dispatch to the evening newspaper Yediot Aharonot, said there are now 100 Jews emigrating daily from the Soviet Union. According to Louis, the reason for the comparatively large scale flow is the encouragement given by the Soviet state airline and the Ministry of Transport.

"Many state organizations in the Soviet Union try to fill their yearly norms so as to qualify for bonuses, and Jewish emigrants have been a gift from heaven in the tourist off-season when trains and planes to Vienna are empty," Louis said.

Louis also said that all undeclared valuables of emigrating Jews are confiscated at Moscow Airport. He commented that one customs official has "a pot brimful with glittering jewels like the days of Ali Baba."

The valuables taken from Jews who declare them are turned over to their families, Louis said.

Location crisis for Soviet Jews

MONTREAL -

Soviet Jews are accustomed to living in large cities but not all will be able to do this in Israel, Knesset Deputy Minister Tova Sanhedrai said here in an interview. She is one of eight women in the Knesset and represents the Hapoel Hamizrachi, (National Women's Religious Party).

One of her prime concerns is family life in Israel, particularly the problems of adjustment facing Russian Jewry.

Mrs. Sanhedrai said the sit-ins at Lod Airport resulted when recently arrived Soviet Jews told newcomers from the Soviet Union not to move to areas in the Negev or in the Galillee.

"Israel does not have the money to establish so many people in one area," she said. "We are trying to build Israel in a uniform way. This is something they are going to have to understand."

Sadat's threats taken seriously

JERUSALEM (JTA) -

Israeli leaders are taking very seriously the Egyptian threat to renew warfare along the Suez Canal as President Anwar Sadat's "year of decision" ends. But differences of opinion surfaced as to whether Israel's response to an Egyptian attack should be an all-out thrust for a decisive victory or a limited war.

It now appears certain that Israel will get some, but not all, of the Phantoms she has been pressing Washington to supply. The United States is believed to have insisted that Israel agree to hold talks with Egypt on re-opening of the Suez Canal, as a condition to getting the planes.

Most observers here believe that Sadat is not thinking in terms of full scale hostilities but is considering a renewal of the war of attrition carried out by his predecessor, the late Gamal Abdel Nasser.

Two of Israel's leading military commentators warned last night that Israel must not allow Sadat to dictate the form and limits of a future war. The commentators, Maj. Gen. Haim Herzog, a member of the Rafi wing of the Labor Party who often reflects official views, and Maj. Gen. Ezer Weizman, chairman of the opposition Herut faction who has the reputation of a "hawk," agreed on separate radio interviews that Israel should seek a decisive victory if war breaks out anew.

Incendiary mixture "bombs"

A device taken from the New Yorker Theatre by Metro Police this week turned out to be "pretty harmless," according to Douglas Lucas of the Forensic Science Center. Left by police in a "bomb truck" at Cherry Beach overnight, the incendiary mixture did not explode. The movie at the New Yorker, **The Garden of the Finzi-Continis**, deals with the 1938 persecution of Jews in Italy.

"Bagnell off base in Globe column on Keating resignation"- Plaut

By W. GUNTHER PLAUT

The Globe and Mail of Dec. 29th, picking up a story from The Canadian Jewish News, ran a large front page piece on the resignation of Rev. Donald Keating from the United Church of Canada. The minister, said The Globe, "had resigned in protest over the Middle East editorial policies of the church's monthly magazine, The Observer." On Dec. 30th, columnist Kenneth Bagnell, a former staff member of The Observer, joined the fray by castigating Mr. Keating for his action, which he called "not just sad, but silly."

Mr. Bagnell is bothered, the public is puzzled - but they all overlook the fact that Mr. Keating who in everyone's opinion has done an outstanding and devoted job for a congregation of disadvantaged people in Riverdale has resigned his **ministry** - not merely his particular post, but his life's profession! The reason for his doing so can only be based on deep moral conviction, and he is entitled to better treatment than epithets. His motives deserve a far fuller exposition than they have been given so far.

As one would expect there has been extended discussion over Mr. Keating's refusal to shake the hand of Dr. A.C. Forrest, editor of The Observer, at a meeting which was held at the office of Dr. A.B.B. Moore, Moderator of the United Church. I was not there and consequently do not know why Mr. Keating refused to shake Dr. Forrest's hand. Mr. Bagnell who also was not there makes a judgment about this, which is his privilege but does not add one whit to our insight. I for one know a number of people whose hands I would not particularly enjoy shaking and a number of situations in which I would refuse to do so, but that is quite beside the point.

The point is also not, as The Globe story implies and Mr. Bagnell repeats in detail, that Mr. Keating resigned his ministry over the Middle East editorial policy of The Observer. I do not know whether the Globe reporter or Mr. Bagnell saw Mr. Keating's letter of resignation. I have seen it. The letter makes it quite clear that while Mr. Keating disagreed with Dr. Forrest's position on the Arab-Israeli conflict, this is not the heart of the matter at all. Mr. Bagnell who concentrates all his columnar fire on this issue, is therefore way off base.

If anything makes me sad it is a minister's judgment (Mr. Bagnell himself is a United Church minister now practising journalism) that Mr. Keating's moral indignation may be written off as "transparent as fresh cellophane, as mature as a child on the first day of kindergarten." Mr. Bagnell asks: "Do ministers resign simply because they differ with editorials?" He should know the answer himself. Of course, Mr. Keating did not resign over an editorial. He resigned because he saw the editorial as another example of an illness which has steadily grown worse and which Mr. Keating decided he could no longer suffer.

Mr. Keating's letter of resignation deals really with only one subject and does so at length. That subject is anti-Semitism - Christian anti-semitism in the church and the church's silence over the presence of this poison in its midst. Yes, Mr. Keating makes reference to The United Church Observer and its Arab advocacy, but he does not object to its political judgment. He does however object to such a judgment becoming the vehicle for deepening and continuing anti-Semitism in the Canadian church. That is the issue, and the public and Mr. Bagnell should look at it squarely.

It will simply not do for anyone to drag out (or innocently mouth) the old calumnies of the Protocols of the Elders of Zion, blaming the evils of the world on Zionists, or for that matter hiding one's anti-Semitism behind the cry: "I am being persecuted by those Zionists." This is a game which a number of people have been playing for a long time (Dr. Forrest himself being a self-appointed martyr) and which recently has found its most prominent exposition in publications of the Moscow-Cairo propaganda axis. The latest edition of this new truth states that in 1938 Czechoslavakia was sold out not by Chamberlain and Hitler, but by a secret conspiracy between Hitler and his closest allies who were - naturally! - the Zionists, who wanted the Jews to be persecuted so that they would have to emigrate to Palestine. Clear? This approach, among other things, is what Mr. Keating objects to.

What did Mr. Keating really say in his criticism of the Church? Here are some excerpts of his letter to the Moderator:

"Have we forgotten? It was six million - one third of the world's Jews! It was the systematic planned extermination of a race of people made possible by 2,000 years of Christian anti-Semitism, and sanctioned by our silence. (Mr. Keating was commenting on an editorial by Dr. Forrest which had stated that the Church had little or no share of guilt in bringing on the Holocaust, that it had staunchly defended the Jews, and that in fact the second World War had in part been fought to save the Jews of Europe.)

"Why do we let the anti-Semitic silence continue in our silence? . . . Some Church members are saying, what one said to me not more than tree months ago: 'The only thing bad about Hitler's plan to exterminate the Jews was that he was not totally successful.'

"Isn't it time for action? Not radical action. I could see the futility of pushing for radical action in the Canadian church. No, just plain basic fundamental Christian action . . .

"Ten years ago Forrest boasted that 'it is better to light a candle than to curse the darkness.' Now I think I know what he meant. Is he not lighting candles that stoke the fires that turned to smoke and ashes the bodies of six million Jews in the Holocaust? You can at least take away his Observer matches.

"You are on the inside and in a place where the action can be. I feel out of it, though I am still formally a minister of the United Church. But I can no longer stay even on the outside of the same house. I don't mind being bound in a community of suffering and suffrance, a solidarity of guilt and glory, but I mean, after all, there is a limit! When those are the kind of candles he lights, I take leave to join those who curse his darkness. I am resigning today."

So, Mr. Keating after all did not resign because of The Observer's stand on Israel and the Arabs. He resigned because he felt that his church had not as yet faced the real issue of anti-Semitism in its own midst. Mr. Bagnell never even mentions the word anti-Semitism which is the crux of Mr. Keating's letter of resignation. But he calls a man of deep moral courage "silly" and "a child on the first day of kindergarten." The Lord who looks at the heart may have another judgment for Mr. Keating.

Organizations and People

Is there a Hadassah mystique?

"Heartbeat of our people, pulse of our communities"

by SALLY KERT

What impels women to leave their homes and families at the height of a Canadian winter, to travel long distances in uncertain weather for the purpose of meeting other women? Soon the corridors of the Inn on the Park will resound with feminine voices enthusiastically discussing important business, women, young and mod, ladies of uncertain age but sure elegance, brimming with confidence and determination, all armed with impressive briefcases.

Hadassah is having a convention!

Their badges reflect the map of Canada as Hadassah business draws them from out west and down east, young and old from every economic strata. Neophyte delegates and old-timers who can tell you exactly who came to the first Hadassah convention in Montreal in 1920. They are listening to speakers, exchanging ideas, making plans for the future, and having a marvellous time.

Do the words "Hadassah lady" conjure up the image of a tea party dilettante, a white gloved do-gooder or timid "pushke" collector? Dispel the notion! Once upon a time, perhaps, the organization woman was looked upon with disdain as having limited brainpower and talent. Women's Lib is changing the housewife's image, but Hadassah ladies proved long ago that it takes good planning and organization, ingenuity and fortitude to run an art auction, chair a bazaar or plan a conference. What's more, they know these are not mere social pastimes but part of a valid lifestyle in the contemporary world because the goals they pursue are authentic and important. For Hadassah ladies, service to the Jewish people is a means of self-fulfillment as well as service to the community.

Today, the traditional leadership establishment cannot discount Hadassah ladies as mere women. Their wives and daughters are actively seeking an equal voice in decisions affecting community welfare on all levels. "We are the heartbeat of our people and the pulse of our communities. We have within us the possibility, the potential, the sensitivity to relate to the vital tasks at hand in the most knowledgeable and effective manner," says Mrs. Charles Balinsky, dynamic leader of Hadassah's comparatively new public affairs portfolio.

Children and workers at Hadassah - sponsored projects in Israel

In the past two years an intensive action-training program in public affairs for women between the ages of 25 and 45 has been launched for Hadassah women to bridge the gap between organization methods and human needs. These "think-tanks" have been duplicated across the country, stimulating, articulate, well-educated young women to inaugurate significant fresh approaches to Jewish concerns and effectively challenge old patterns. The focus is on Israel and the United States, Soviet Jewry, Canadian foreign policy, youth and the future of Zionism - themes for thoughtful analysis, learning and creative approaches.

In one community women have been helpful in combating anti-Israel vibrations on campus; in another, indifferent Jewish academics are being drawn into community affairs; in another the strong anti-Israel press has taken a fairer approach; everywhere women are voicing their concern and opinions openly. Hadassah women lent great strength to the public protest demonstrations during the recent visit of Russian leaders to Canada.

The new breed of Hadassah woman - vibrant, committed and aware - is making her presence felt. To service to Israel has been added a new dimension stemming from the desire to shape progress out of the commotion of contemporary society.

Flexibility, a constant re-assessment of the priorities and a willingness to meet every challenge accounts for the growth and vitality of Hadassah-WIZO in Canada today. It is reflected in the growth and development of its institutions. In the early days concentration on agricultural and vocational education for women and the care of infants and children took priority.

In 1926 Canadian Hadassah women undertook full responsibility for the maintenance and development of the Chana Mesel Shochet Agricultural School of Nahalal. It was the first agricultural school for Jewish women ever established and the first in the Middle East. Incidentally, Moshe Dayan was one of the first boys to attend this school. Today it has an enrolment of boys and girls who receive training in the most modern methods of farming and agro mechanics at the same time as receiving a complete high school education which enables them to proceed to university.

In the 50's the need for diversity in vocational training was recognized. At the Canadian Youth Aliyah project, Magdiel boys are taught electronics, motor mechanics, aeronautical technology and helicopter technology. At Nahalal, a course in agro mechanics enables farmers to become expert technicians. In recent years Hadassah-WIZO has responded to the new challenges of reaching the low IQ and disadvantaged child by sponsoring a child guidance clinic and research centre for emotionally disturbed and culturally deprived children. Nehalim is Canadian Hadassah-WIZO's school for children with severe learning disabilities. Through scholarships and donations, Canadian Hadassah has substantially assisted the Hebrew University program to aid culturally deprived students towards university education.

In addition to these ongoing activities, Canadian women are meeting the great need for more day creches and nursery schools and a higher level of educational care. Practically all the children at the two creches in Tel Aviv, one in Acco, two in Jerusalem and one in Ashdod are from large families and overcrowded homes. There is no generation gap among Hadassah women. No woman can afford to feel that she has done her share or that any job is too small to bother with. They are motivated by the instinctive recognition that Jews share a common past and a common future.

Of course, Hadassah women have been partners in obtaining aid for Israel for decades, but Hadassah-WIZO work is more than extensive welfare services for women and children. It is the conviction that Canadian and Israeli women are real partners in the reconstruction of the Jewish people. This feeling has been transmitted by the ability of the organization to gear its activities and efforts to Israel's rapidly changing needs, and the WIZO system of encouraging each of its federations to take pride in its own specific projects as well as contributing to the general budget.

Many women today have assessed the feminine mystique which urges self-fulfillment and independence and found their own workable combination for a meaningful life. It isn't a matter of going back to work or to school or developing personal interests, because whatever women choose to do, be it paid or voluntary work, the necessary ingredients are communication with others, challenge and the opportunity for individual growth.

For many women Hadassah supplies these ingredients liberally, plus the satisfaction of worthwhile goals. It demands independent action and a certain amount of creative thinking in achieving these goals. It draws on all their skills, talents and resources. As in any business there is the opportunity to rise to a position of leadership or to find satisfaction in being well led. There is the necessity to learn to work with others and deal with human nature. The rewards are obvious! Ask any Hadassah lady at the convention this week. These women are more than wives, daughters and mothers. They are purposeful human beings who are working together with intelligence and love. That's the Hadassah mystique!

Mrs. Sheldon Kert of Toronto is Publicity Chairman of the 1972 Hadassah convention

Rejects cash aid for elderly

MONTREAL -

This city's senior citizens begin the New Year on a gloomy note as a result of a decision taken by Montreal Urban Community Council rejecting a motion to reduce bus and metro fares for elderly people. Mayor Jean Drapeau, head of Montreal's Civic Party, said he was in favor of special tariffs for old people who could not afford the regular rate, but he maintained that the issue is a social welfare matter for the provincial government.

Out of 52 counsellors, 9 voted for the motion.

Abraham Cohen, the Civic Party member who presented the motion, has been associated with transportation rights for senior citizens for many years. Cohen told **The Canadian Jewish News** that "the mayor will seek aid from the province but I can't see this happening."

Phil Shaposnick, president of the Golden Age Association, said the reduction of fares is a critical issue for senior citizens since fully half of the Jewish old age population receive old age pension supplements to maintain floor income of $135 per month and some 75% receive other forms of supplements.

"People who live on that amount of money can't afford to leave the house and they literally rot there; they deteriorate physically and mentally," he said. "People who can manage to come to meetings or outings don't get sick as often or depressed as easily."

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Hadassah

"With some quarter million Jews in Canada a membership of only 16,000 women is very small indeed. One of the important things we must do is to increase the participation of women - specifically from the smaller communities."

A proposed change in the Hadassah constitution will make the organization more meaningful to its membership, and will enlarge the duties of the five vice presidents "to allow for more travelling with the intention of developing full leadership potential."

Neri Bloomfield's involvment in communal activity is a way of life.

It is, she describes, "a romance with the Jewish people." Her attachment to Hadassah stems from the belief that "if you educate a man, you educate an individual, if you educate a woman, you educate a family."

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HADASSAH-WIZO
HADASSAH-WIZO ORGANIZATION OF CANADA

- is an affiliate of WIZO, the Women's International Zionist Organization
- sponsors vital social services for needy individuals in Israel
- strengthens Jewish ideals and encourages Jewish and Hebrew culture in Canada
- promotes understanding between the people of Canada and the people of Israel
- cooperates with other organizations to promote Canadian ideals of democracy

HADASSAH-WIZO IN ISRAEL

- sponsors Nahalal Agricultural and Secondary School, a co-education boarding school for needy students
- sponsors Hadassim Children and Youth Village, a progressive residential secondary school
- maintains six creches for pre-school children, Jewish and Arab, of mothers who are ill or must support their families
- sponsors a Child Guidance Clinic and Research Unit in Jerusalem
- conducts the official program of Youth Aliyah in Canada, and contributes to its maintenance and scholarship program in Israel
- maintains the Youth Aliyah Vocational Village of Magdiel
- maintains Nehalim School and Treatment Centre for children with severe learning disabilities
- sponsors the Acco Youth Village for below average students
- provides medical assistance to the needy, sick and disabled at Sarafand, Kfar Saba, Arad and Eilat
- contributes to WIZO services which provide vocational training, legal aid, financial and family counselling services for women

WOMAN TO WOMAN THROUGH HADASSAH-WIZO

Organizations and People

what's new . . .

by Miriam Herman

Yosef Yaacov, counsellor, Israel embassy, Ottawa, guest speaker at the Histadrut banquet, Jan. 9 at Beth Tzedec Synagogue.

SYNAGOGUE CONCERT

Reserve Saturday evening, Jan. 20 for Adath Israel's Fifth Annual Synagogue Concert. Joining the Sara Aviani Yemenite Trio from Israel will be The Travellers, and Cantor Sheldon Merel with the Holy Blossom Youth Choir and instrumentalists performing excerpts of the folk-rock service.

YOUTH SEMINAR

More than 300 teenagers from the U.S., Manitoba and Ontario attended the annual Central East Canadian Seminar held at the Hamilton Hebrew Academy Dec. 23-28. The seminar, under the leadership of two Hamilton rabbis, Herbert Millen and Morton Green, offered basic instruction in Judaism, leadership and group skills in a study-play atmosphere.

FUND FOR RUSSIAN JEWS IN ISRAEL

Zeirei Agudath Israel in Toronto is launching a fund-raising campaign to finance homes, synagogues and schools for Georgian Jews arriving in Israel from Russia. The fund was launched following reports of Georgian Jews requesting permission to return to Russia from Israel because of the lack of religious facilities.

WORLD ZIONIST CONGRESS

David Monson, national president and Dr. George Liban, executive vice-president will head the Zionist Organization of Canada delegation at the 28th World Zionist Congress to be held in Jerusalem Jan. 18-27.

ORT RECEIVES AWARD

ORT was one of six organizations to receive a Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds' William J. Shroder Award in recognition of superior achievement in social welfare by a Jewish voluntary health and welfare organization in Canada. ORT was cited "for the creation of technical training institutions and programs in African and South American countries."

HERZL PLAY POSTPONED

The play on the life of Theodor Herzl, **The Man Behind The Legend**, has been postponed from Sunday, Jan. 9 to Sunday, March 19. The postponement was made by the Toronto Zionist Council in cooperation with Holy Blossom Temple Brotherhood because of the accumulation of events on the ninth. All tickets purchased will be honored on March 19.

Photo by Joseph Grossman

Some of the 50 youngsters who attended the recent, three-day winter camp (Machane Horef) at Beth Tzedec Synagogue, participate in the portrayal of a Chasidic wedding. The theme of the camp, Building One Israel: Ashkenazim and Sephardim, was explored through drama, arts and crafts, and religious and educational activities.

. . . about people

Donald Lipman

Donald Lipman, recently named Toronto's 1972 Israel bond chairman, will be in Jerusalem at the end of the month. He will attend a conference of key Israel bond leaders from Canada, the U.S. and Latin America. Mr. Lipman was 1971 chairman of the Trade and Professions Division of the Toronto bond drive.

Professor Gedalia Wiseman

Former Montrealer **Gedalia Wiseman**, now professor of civil engineering at the Haifa Technion, will be in Canada for the month of January. He is scheduled for a cross-country tour to lecture on the Technion's part in the development of Israel's economy and defence. In Toronto, a memorial lecture will be dedicated to the the late Norman Grant, member of the Technion Board of Governors, on Jan. 7 at Holy Blossom Temple.

* * * * * *

Two young recipients of music scholarships from the Canada-Israel Cultural Foundation, **Judi Kenedi**, Canadian pianist and **Joseph Peleg**, Israeli violinist, appeared together in dual concerts in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv last week. Judi, completing her final year for a Bachelor of Music degree at the University of Toronto, received the highest marks ever awarded a musician at the 1968 Kiwanis Music Festival in Toronto. Joseph performed as soloist with the Kol-Israel radio orchestra and the Gadna National Youth Orchestra before coming to Canada in 1969. He is also in the Bachelor of Music course at the U. of T.

* * * * * *

Israeli "peace pilot", **Abie J. Nathan**, will be arriving in Toronto on Jan. 12. The Iranian-born former restaurant owner from Tel Aviv gained worldwide attention for his peace flights in the Middle East and Biafra. His latest mission is **The Voice of Peace**, a radio ship purchased with contributions from the Dutch people. It will sail from New York in February for Middle East waters and will broadcast peace messages in Hebrew, Arabic, French and English.

* * * * * *

Dr. Michel Silberfield of the University of Toronto's School of Hygiene has been awarded a $6,550 fellowship by the federal department of health and welfare. These fellowships are granted for university training in the organization and evaluation of health services and for health care research. Dr. Silberfield will use his in his master of science degree course in epidemiology and science degree course in epidemiology and statistics to examine the use of life tables in the study of chronic diseases.

* * * * * *

In Toronto this weekend to attend Beth Sholom Synagogue's 25th anniversary celebrations will be **Rabbi Solomon Frank**, Spanish Portugese Synagogue of Montreal, Canada's oldest congregation - and **Morris Speizman** of Charlotte, North Carolina, who is president of the World Council of Synagogues.

* * * * * *

A St. Catharines, Ont. couple, **Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Lambert**, have established a fund to provide for the tutoring of Sephardic children in an Israeli settlement. The Lamberts, who read about the plight of the Sephardi in Israel, set up the fund through the Toronto Keren Hayesod. The Sephardic community make up 56% of Israel's population. But only 3% of the university graduates are Sephardis because of a high dropout rate at the high school level. The three main subjects they fail in high school are English, mathematics and Hebrew grammer. Most have to be tutored in order to finish high school. It costs about $750 a year to tutor a class of Sephardic children.

* * * * * *

Harry Weinstock, president of the Farband Canadian District was elected national vice-president of the newly formed Labor Zionist Alliance.

Hadassah seeks new outlets for members

By LEWIS LEVENDEL
CJN Assistant Editor

Hadassah women from across Canada are gathering this weekend at the Inn on the Park where the organization will seek to broaden the outlets for its members' energies and commitments.

The 24th biennial convention of the Hadassah-WIZO Organization of Canada from Jan. 8 to 12 features a number of well-known guest speakers including the outspoken Senator Mike Gravel of Alaska and the colorful Teddy Kollek, mayor of Jerusalem. There will also be a number of expert "resource" persons in attendance to help the expected 800 delegates meet the "challenges of the Seventies."

Delegate participation and communication are the themes of the convention planners. Blanche W. Wisenthal of Montreal, outgoing Hadassah national president, says: "During the convention, each delegate will have the opportunity to find practical ways to insure the survival of the Jewish people; each delegate will participate actively in the formulation of future goals and projects.

"We will have the opportunity as well to discuss some of the alarming problems which have emerged on the Canadian Jewish scene: such problems as the large numbers of disaffected Jewish youth, the latent and obvious manifestations of anti-Semitism in many Canadian communities and the sad lack of adequate Jewish and Zionist education."

Mrs. Wisenthal added that Hadassah tasks of the future "must include imaginative, intensified public relations programs through the efforts of our public affairs department and the development of new plans for helping Jews of the Soviet Union to emigrate. We must arouse the conscience of the world to the tragic plight of Jews in Arab countries and we must intensify Zionist education at home."

She declared that the recent national election of delegates to the World Zionist Congress proved the Canadian Hadassah membership needed a "much more intensified Zionist education."

Monday will also feature a Youth Aliyah luncheon attended by Baroness Alix de Rothschild, world patron of Youth Aliyah, and Joseph Klarman, world head of the organization. Aya Dinstein, acting chairman of the World WIZO executive, will be speaker at the WIZO international dinner that evening.

On Tuesday, the speech of Manitoba Chief Justice Samuel Freedman at the Hebrew University breakfast is expected to be a highlight.

Wednesday will see University of Toronto Chancellor Dr. Pauline Mills McGibbon speaking in the morning and Kollek addressing the closing banquet.

Mrs. Bernard Bloomfield, also of Montreal, will succeed Mrs. Wisenthal as national president. Convention organizers are Mrs. Manuel Bogoch of Edmonton and Mrs. Sydney Wise of Toronto.

Meanwhile, representatives of the Toronto branch of the Committee for Safeguarding Human Dignity will meet with Hadassah leaders during the convention to present their point of view on the Israel autopsy controversy. The committee is calling for autopsies only with permission of the next-of kin. The Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem, Israel's largest, has been the scene of many protests against the country's autopsy laws and the hospital's policy.

Ottawa Jews demonstrate at embassy

OTTAWA -

Ottawa Jewry has staged a two hour symbolic vigil in front of the Soviet Embassy to mark the first anniversary of the Leningrad Trials.

As a result of the trials in the Russian city, 42 Jewish political prisoners are languishing in Soviet labor camps.

Forty-two men and women dressed in black gathered before the embassy Dec. 26 and staged the silent vigil. It was led by Zachariah Kay, chairman of the Ottawa Committee on Soviet Jewry.

Give to Live--1972 UJA-ISF slogan

Leaders of the United Jewish Appeal-Israel Special Fund 1972 campaign are preparing for action and will get a background briefing at a leadership seminar at the Primrose Club on Sun., Jan. 9.

Experts in various fields of Jewish life will speak on the social problems and needs of Jews in Canada and Israel. Campaign Chairman Phil Granovsky says that topics to be discussed will encompass all facets of the Jewish community, with emphasis on the priorities to be dealt with in the 1972 campaign.

Mr. Granovsky announced that the UJA-ISF slogan will be **Give to Live**, which will be the topic of his talk at the seminar.

Opening the session will be Harry L. Wolfson, president of the United Jewish Welfare Fund of Toronto, whose topic is **The Challenge of the 70's.**

They Let Some of Our People Go! is the title of the talk to be given by Alex Serota of the campaign planning committee.

Alan Rose, assistant to the national director, Canadian Jewish Congress, will speak on **The New Shape of Anti-Semitism.**

Education Means Identification Means Survival, will be discussed by Herbert Solway and Rabbi Irwin E. Witty, president and executive director respectively of the Board of Jewish Education.

Steven Ain, youth worker, Canadian Jewish Congress and students from the University of Toronto and York University will speak on **The Campus - Battleground for Jewish Belief.**

Jerome Diamond, executive director, Jewish Family and Child Service, will deal with the subject, **Top Priority - The Aged and Youth.**

Col. Jacob Monbaz, Israel's consul general in Toronto will discuss **Israel's Permanent Emergency.**

The seminar will start at 9:30 a.m. and continue until 2 p.m., with a break for brunch at 11:30 a.m.

The Hebrew Men of England Congregation wish to congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Harry Moscoe Q.C., first vice-president of the congregation on the occasion of their son Sidney Moscoe receiving the Queen's Council ranks.

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on their National Convention. May God bless all their deliberations for the greater enhancement of Zion and Jerusalem.

Rabbi Benjamin Hauer, National Executive Vice President
Joseph Drazin, National President

President and Officers of the

CANADIAN ZIONIST FEDERATION

greet HADASSAH-WIZO on the occasion of their biennial convention.

We trust that their deliberations will add to the furtherance of the HADASSAH.

FEDERATION OF ZIONISTS

Editorial page

Hadassah women embark on new public affairs program

There is a quaint, male chauvinist pride men express when discussing Hadassah. The organization is the epitome of what men – and most women – think a good women's organization should be: dedicated, sharply focussed and highly organized.

Moreover, Hadassah's program typifies womanly qualities of sympathy for the sick, the aged, the young, the acutely unhappy and the helpless. Hadassah serves as an ideal family conscience; an instrument that is not only sensitive to the suffering of others, but also actively engaged in relieving it.

Men sincerely applaud the organization; husbands happily assist in collecting used clothing, donate prizes, run the games of chance at the bazaar and above all praise the organization because, "they know what they are doing."

However, there are some restless stirrings among many of the young Hadassah leaders. They suspect that the praise expressed by men has a slightly patronizing ring as if according them an award for "best little 'ol housekeeper of the year!"

They are not certain they want the annual bazaar to stand as their crowning achievement. While they recognize the need for fund-raising, they wish to be more active in providing services and to play a larger role in public affairs.

For the past two years, Hadassah leadership, sensitive to the strivings of its younger members, has held intensive public affairs workshops for a cross-section of its members. Eager to employ their new knowledge, these women, on returning to their home communities, were surprised to learn that they were not warmly welcomed by the men who lead our community councils.

"What right do these Hadassah gals have to get into public affairs?" they asked. "Aren't they getting pretty far away from fund-raising for hospitals and orphanages?" It was as if they were doing something unfeminine.

In spite of the coolness of their initial welcome, Hadassah women have proven they can do more than rummage for clothes and make potato *latkes*.

When given an opportunity they have added a quality of militancy to local community relations committees that were shy about speaking out on behalf of Israel. They have played an important role in the demonstrations that confronted Soviet Premier Kosygin; they have organized letter writing campaigns. They have earned their way.

Of course, this is only the beginning. Something important is stirring in the Hadassah ranks. Women with this much ability cannot be held back. We had better place some extra chairs at our council tables.
some extra chairs at our council tables. They are knocking on the door and demanding admission.

Grant cancelled

Group militancy has its defects

The newspapers reported recently that a $35,000-a-year grant to a Hamilton poor people's group had been cancelled because the group proved too militant.

The grant was originally provided by the Department of National Health and Welfare to demonstrate that if welfare recipients band together and support each other, they can bring about desirable changes in the administration of welfare assistance. The concept behind such grants is that social action by the poor or oppressed is the only means of compelling social change. The grant-makers assumed that so long as the relief recipient is alone and powerless that the welfare system perpetuates dependency.

When the group staged a sit-in at the Hamilton welfare office, picketed the Salvation Army Men's Hostel and demanded to meet with the Hamilton Housing Authority, the federal authorities had second thoughts.

Chiefly in question is the Hamilton Welfare Rights Organization's "confrontation politics", the technique developed by American sociologist, Saul Alinsky. According to Alinsky, the power of the establishment is to be met by the power of the people, which must then seize control or lose its gains.

Federal authorities in both the United States and Canada have experimented with programs aimed at relieving feelings of dependency and helplessness by disadvantaged groups by providing funds for radical action. The funds are often allocated without consulting local authorities and in some cases, in spite of them. The theory has been that the federal authorities have felt safe in doing so because they have assumed that any agitation that developed would be directed at lower echelon bureaucrats operating on a local level. They did not expect that tremors resulting from the explosion would reach all the way to Ottawa or Washington.

Mayors, aldermen, ward bosses, provincial premiers and state governors are apprehensive, because they know that the hostility will be directed at them. The federal authorities feel safer because they assume that they will be far removed from the shock-wave resulting from the explosion. In addition, as the suppliers of the funds, they expect that the poor will be reasonably grateful and not do anything to endanger further grants.

In this the federal government has been disappointed. Indians, given money to organize, have organized against the Department of Indian Affairs. Local political leaders, faced with the poor's new revolutionary tactics, have emitted such bellows of pain that Ottawa could not afford to ignore them. To do so would be to endanger support in the ridings.

The government should be frank in its preference for "tame" projects and the disadvantaged should not delude themselves that revolutionary tactics will be long subsidized.

It is apparently too much to expect that governments will undertake to finance revolutions against themselves.

Israel defeating Gaza terrorists

Hardly one day passes without the killing or capture of a terrorist in the Gaza Strip and slowly, sometimes painfully the Israeli security forces have gained the upper hand.

It is almost a year since the security forces introduced their special measures designed to eradicate terrorism as part of the daily pattern of Gaza life, and to change some of the basic conditions in the camps which had contributed to the increase of these activities.

On the military level, operations were instituted to seal off the terrorists from outside sources of communication and supply, the safeguarding of vital installations and main traffic arteries, and the permanent patrolling of both built-up and open areas.

At the administrative level - that at which Israel has come under most external criticism - the aim was to thin out three of the most congested refugee camps, enabling the establishment of wide patrol lanes. The result was to prevent terrorists not only escaping detection during sweeps within camps, but also their passage through vegetation and buildings from one camp to another.

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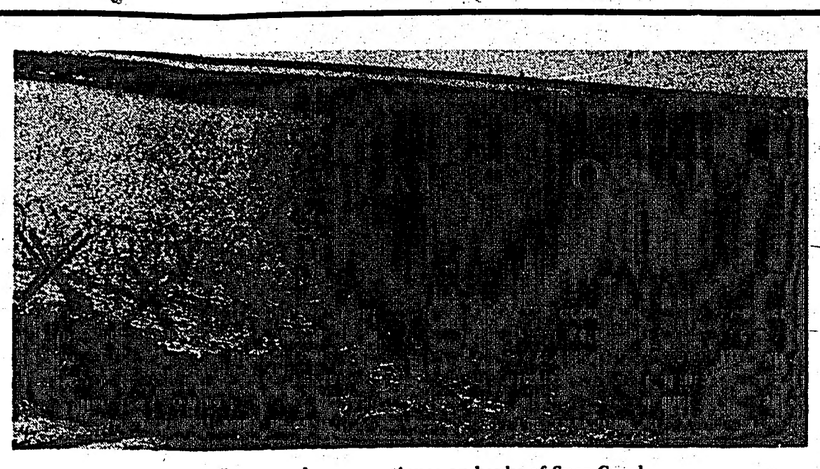
HEBREW CALENDAR

20 Teves Sidra: Sh'mos Candlelighting: Toronto 4:38; Montreal 4:08



Propoganda war continues on banks of Suez Canal

Loudspeakers along Suez new propaganda weapon

By NECHEMIA MEYERS
CJN Israel Correspondent

TEL AVIV -

Israeli troops along the Suez Canal are not yet being bombarded with Egyptian shells, but they are already under fire from Egyptian loudspeakers. Popular music is interspersed with propaganda, which, perhaps under Soviet guidance, has grown considerably more sophisticated in recent months.

Much of it is directed at specific groups, for example the Druse, an Arabic-speaking minority whose young men serve side by side with Jews in the Israeli Defence Forces. Now, instead of denouncing the Druse as traitors, they are referred to as brethren, and urged to desert the IDF in order "to join the struggle against the Zionist conquerers of Palestine." Complaints voiced by Israeli Druse are naturally highlighted in these broadcasts.

Appeals of a similar nature are directed at Jews of Middle Eastern origin, both along the Canal and over the airwaves. Each incendiary statement made by the Jerusalem Black Panthers is quoted over and over against their "Ashkenazi (European) overlords."

Thus far, however, these specialized appeals have proven unsuccessful. Local Druse continue to volunteer for service in Israel's Border Police and in the most dangerous front-line units of the defence forces. Oriental Jews, far from revolting, remain more hostile to the Arabs than Jews of European origin.

Israel's broadcasts and telecasts in Arabic - to judge by the reactions of the Arab press - appear to be more successful. One Cairo paper, expressing its concern, writes: "Radio propaganda is among the most dangerous weapons employed by Israel in her insidious program of psychological warfare. Citizens must avoid listening to enemy broadcasts. It is the duty of all citizens to prevent the dissemination of Israeli lies."

Exhortations alone seem to be ineffective; the Egyptians have also taken to jamming Israeli broadcasts. Moreover, any Egyptian soldier caught listening to an enemy program is subject to severe punishment.

The Baghdad authorities are no less worried about the effects of Israeli programs beamed to Iraq. Their effectiveness is enhanced by the fact that the Jerusalem broadcasters use the proper Iraqi dialect (spoken Arabic varies widely from country to country) and present the most popular Iraqui songs (played by Jewish musicians who once belonged to the Baghdad Radio Orchestra).

Beirut newspapers have called on the Arab League to counteract "Israel's televised war of attrition." Arabic-language telecasts from Jerusalem, warns the Lebanese press, "are watched by everyone in southern Lebanon." Worst of all, the papers complain, the girls on Israeli TV are better looking than those on Lebanon's own programs.

Each week Israeli broadcasters receive dozens of letters - sent via Cyprus or Europe - from listeners in the Arab states. These letters, which are answered over the air, generally pose questions about various aspects of Israeli life and policy.

One of the most interesting communications to reach Jerusalem in recent years, however, came not by mail but by special messenger. It was sent by an Arab strongman, who complained that the Israeli radio continued to refer to him by the military rank he had held before the last revolution, i.e., before he promoted himself to a higher rank.

A few days later, Israel's Arabic broadcasters politely "ratified" his new rank.

ask the rabbi

Groom's presence on Sabbath is wedding notice

1. Why is it customary for the groom to come to the synagogue on the Sabbath morning before his wedding?

RESPONSE:

The way some sources analyze it, it seems that the original time for the groom's visit was on the Sabbath after the wedding. As a matter of fact some (Midrash Talpiyyot) expect the groom to come both on the Sabbath before the wedding as well as on the Sabbath after the wedding.

These sources contend that a groom is likened unto a "king". The King of ancient Israel was required to have two scrolls of the Torah. Thus, the groom comes before the Torah twice - on the Sabbath before his wedding and on the Sabbath after his wedding.

First, a marriage was always regarded as a matter of general community concern. In olden times (and even in some Jewish communities today), notice of intent to marry had to be filed with the rabbinate some time before the marriage. To this end, the presence of the groom in the synagogue before the wedding was tantamount to announcing to the community that a wedding was about to take place. The synagogue, especially on Sabbath, was the place where public information was announced.

Secondly, a groom was considered an honored personage in the community, especially the first week after the marriage. In some communities, a special reading from the prophets was substituted for one regularly assigned for that particular Sabbath and the groom read this portion.

Thirdly, many associate this practice with the means by which the wise King Solomon constructed the Temple in Jerusalem. He made a special gate referred to as the "Gate of the Bridegrooms" through which the groom would enter the sanctuary and people who wished to offer their tributes and compliments to the groom would gather at this gate.

Demonstrations got us out: Soviet Jews

By RABBI JOSEPH KELMAN

"Your demonstrations in Canada and the United States got us out," say Russian Jews in Israel. This statement was made independently by a number of Russian immigrants whom we met in Arad a short time ago, only five days after their arrival in Israel.

Anyone visiting Israel today should not fail to see one of the many absorption centres scattered about the country where new settlers begin their life in Israel. They spend the first five months or more being provided with all their material wants, while the family adjusts to the new way of life. Here too they take an intensive Ulpan course to master the hebrew tongue.

The Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue tour stopped at Arad to visit one of our congregants who had just moved to Israel six weeks earlier. There was one building set aside for single people; another big building had apartments for families. It was here that we met the Russian emigrees. It was a very emotional meeting for all of us as we conversed with them in their fluent Yiddish. One former teacher knew English and others already were using Hebrew phrases.

We were impressed with their feelings of joy in being in Israel. They in turn liked the Canadian Jews coming to visit Israel and the absoption centre. In our conversations we learned a great deal of the courage it takes to express themselves "Jewishly" in the Soviet Union today and to take the final step of applying for an emigration visa.

Rabbi Joseph Kelman

We met doctors, engineers and teachers at the Arad Absorption Centre used for professionals from all over the world. Members in our group asked the emigrees what (in their opinion) forced Russian authorities to allow them to leave.

It was heartwarming to hear them state that they were convinced that the massive demonstrations that we had in Canada and elsewhere were decisive factors. They knew about the great gathering outside the Inn on the Park in Toronto and the Ottawa demonstrations during the Kosygin visit. News of this kind does travel back almost immediately to pierce the Iron Curtain.

The age-old tradition of Jews being responsible and helpful one to another has been strengthened in modern times in this global village by means of rapid communication and jet transportation. There was a wonderful feeling of unity amongst us as we stood in the hot sun of a November day in Arad. Here we were - Canadian Jews visiting a Toronto family who had recently moved to Israel and now living and adjusting together with our Russian brethren.

As we were getting ready to leave there was the inevitable picture taking with arms around each other's shoulders. A few of us could not help but spontaneously break out into the song **Havenu Shalom Aleichem** - Let us bring greeting and peace one to the other. After we finished this song a young Russian engineer, who a short time ago hardly even knew that he was Jewish, began to sing in his broken Hebrew **Hatikvah** and would not rest until he sang every word. It was intermingled with our own strained voices and tears. What a sight - older Russian families and young ones who hardly knew they were Jewish four years ago, swaying back and forth to the tunes of **Hatikvah** knowing that now "They were Home."

Rabbi Joseph Kelman is rabbi of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue, Toronto.

Forest Hills Crisis

N.Y. Jews divided on housing of Blacks

By SOL I. LITTMAN

There is something bad happening in Forest Hills, New York. This predominantly Jewish neighborhood, which only a few years ago resisted the entrance of Jews, is now deeply divided about the possible entrance of Blacks.

The construction of a public housing project in the center of the area promises to bring some of the city's poor into the area. It is almost certain, given the economic structure of New York City, that most of these will be Negro and Puerto Rican.

Divisions in the Jewish community along economic and religious lines which began to reveal themselves during the 1967 New York school teachers' strike, which deepened during the battle between Lindsay and Prococcivo in the mayorality election, have reappeared in aggravated form.

A Jewish community which was once united in most things has proven to be deeply divided on the desirability of Blacks in one's neighborhood or school.

The lower income categories are most hostile to the housing project. They fear an increase in street crime and the deterioration of neighborhood schools.

The more affluent in the community express the most tolerant attitudes, partly because of their generally high level of education and partly because they live farthest from the project.

The Reform rabbinate has been most insistent that Jews, having suffered discrimination themselves, cannot visit it on another minority group. On the other hand, the Orthodox rabbinate has condemned the traditional Jewish defence agencies, such as the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, the American Jewish Committee and the American Jewish Congress, for serving the cause of Black civil rights and disregarding the danger to Jews in changing neighborhoods. There are of course exceptions, with one Orthodox rabbi resigning from his rabbinical association because he felt that his colleagues were betraying the necessity for social justice intrinsic to the Jewish faith.

Such divisions will not disappear. They promise to grow wider as the struggle by Blacks for their share of the society's social goods brings them in conflict with other minority groups fighting to maintain their meager gains.

"We have sinned"

Reform Rabbis apply Jewish law to conversion rules

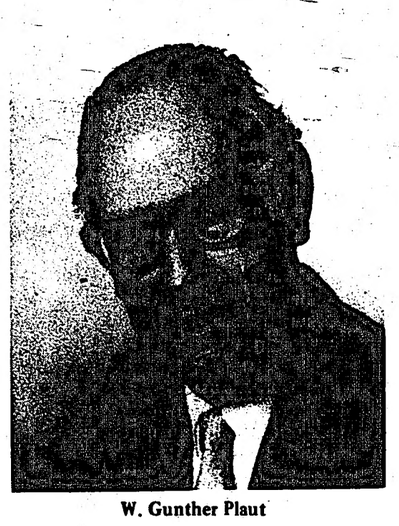
By BEN GALLOB

A leading Canadian Reform rabbi has reported an on-going cooperative effort in which he and the three other Reform rabbis in the Toronto area seek to apply consistently the requirements of Jewish religious law - including ritual circumcision and immersion (tevilah) - in conversions of non-Jews to Judaism.

Rabbi W. Gunther Plaut of Holy Blossom Temple described the development in a report in which he identified himself with the "Halacha-oriented" Reform rabbis in the Central Conference of American Rabbis. Writing in the current issue of the **CCAR Journal,** Rabbi Plaut asserted that, on the main questions of Halacha and personal status situations - marriage, divorce and conversion - "we Reform rabbis have sinned with abandon." He asserted that in these areas, Reform rabbis could, by applying Halachic norms, "contribute to healing the breach" in the peoplehood of Israel, "and, in so doing, give our movement - and incidentally, our rabbinic profession - a new dimension."

He wrote that he was making his appeal to Reform rabbis "who will take gerut (conversion) far more seriously than we Reform rabbis have done in the past; who are willing to make of kiddushin (Jewish marriage as a sanctification) a more significant Jewish experience and, last but not least, who are willing to consider the re-introduction of some sort of gittin (Jewish religious divorce)."

Rabbi Plaut then described the program of the four Reform rabbis in Toronto, reporting that for the past two years, they had



W. Gunther Plaut

Jordan Pearlson

Michael Stroh

Arthur Bielfeld

"discussed and discussed again both the philosophical and technical aspects which face us in the matter of gerut." The other rabbis are Michael Stroh of Har Zion, Jordan Pearlson of Temple Sinai and Arthur Bielfeld of Temple Emanu El in Willowdale.

Rabbi Plaut said the duties of the director "range from registration and setting up of interviews to finding sponsoring families; from arranging for Shabbat and Yom Tov dinners, to looking after personal problems" of prospective converts, and "to all arrangements for the half-year instruction program" required by the four rabbis of all prospective converts. He said all four rabbis, plus some community workers, participate in the classes, which have an average of 60-75 persons in attendance.

In facing the question of ritual circumcision for prospective converts, the four rabbis "agreed to make it compulsory" for the male candidates. He added that the rabbis found that "our hesitation was greater" than that of the candidates. He also reported that the four rabbis require "dam berit" - a ritual procedure which produces a symbolic drop of blood for those already surgically circumcised "and complete ritual circumcision in the case of others."

He said it was the conversion candidates "who brought us to the next step." He asserted that they knew that ritual immersion "formed part of the traditional ceremony and they wanted it." He disclosed that it took the four rabbis "quite a while to make the arrangements - mostly because we ourselves had to overcome a traditional Reform hang-up with mikveh," the ritual immersion facility.

"The physical act, thrice-repeated complete submersion, somehow represented an act of great significance" to them, he declared. He added that the four rabbis had not yet made ritual immersion compulsory for conversion candidates but that he was certain they would. He added the hope that "all, or most of, the Reform rabbis in Canada will follow suit."

Rabbi Plaut called the matter of Jewish religious divorce "the most difficult" of all the issues involved. He said that, on the whole, the Reform rabbinate had "totally abandoned our responsibility in this regard. We insist that marriage must be a religious covenant and after that we leave it to the civil authorities to deal with it as they see fit."

In religious terms, he asserted, that procedure by the Reform rabbis was "a disgrace." He proposed that the Reform rabbinate "require couples to seek rabbinic counseling prior to entering the civil courts" in divorce proceedings. He asserted it would be a small but highly significant step from there to require some form of religious dissolution of a religiously entered covenant by Jewish couples.

Letters to editor

Defend rabbis against ignorance charge

Dear Editor:

It was with much sadness and dismay that I read the letter written by Mr. I. Jacobson in the issue of Dec. 17. Not for some time has such narrow and strictured opinion appeared in your paper.

Mr. Jacobson has every right to practise and defend Orthodoxy, but to do so by saying, and I quote:

"... **the Conservatives and Reformers have no idea whatever of what religion means and is supposed to be, and more specifically, know nothing about Judaism and the Jewish faith**" at once places him among those who had "burning" desires to maintain their "true" faith in mediaeval Spain.

I need not defend the dedication to Judaism and scholarship of the leading Reform and Conservative rabbis in Toronto. They are more than capable of doing so. Mr. Jacobson would have me believe that my rabbi is ignorant of real Judaism, unworthy of his ministry and that the congregation is being exposed to a false doctrine. I cannot conceive that such a static and monolithic thesis exists in this day and age.

To place so many hundreds of thousands of Jews who are not Orthodox among the "heretical" outcasts makes me shudder in pity for his stringent attitude. Were he given the power to deny us the right to worship as we wish, then would he be aligned with the tyrants who have tried and failed to destroy our people. Mr. Jacobson has made it quite clear that honest and open dialogue among all branches of Judaism is long overdue; and may I suggest that all Jews of every persuasion have the right fully to experience Judaism without fear of excommunication - to be born, marry and die without being labelled "mamzerim" according to one of its branches.

Murray Sandler
Toronto

Dear Editor:

As a Canadian Jew who is concerned about the internal as well as external problems of the State of Israel, I would like to comment on an article which your paper recently published concerning the anti-autopsy campaign being waged by the Zeirei Agudath Israel organization.

The situation in Israeli hospitals as far as forced autopsies are concerned has become intolerable. As a result many sick people refuse to enter hospitals, thereby endangering their lives for fear of an autopsy which is contrary to their democratic freedom and/or religious beliefs.

Such stubborness in the face of death is no stranger to the Jewish people. Such steadfastness for the sake of Jewish beliefs has allowed us to survive, to witness the seemingly impossible rebirth of the Jewish State.

It is shocking therefore that the Israeli government, under pressure from the medical lobby is unable to pass legislation that would require family consent before an autopsy is performed. This is hardly a "religious extremist" demand. I know of no other state or nation which is controlled by the "Neutrei Karta" yet every nation in the free world requires prior consent for an autopsy.

Surprisingly it is specifically those who pose as the champions of democracy and freedom of choice when it comes to the question of buses running on Sabbath, who now defend the anti-democratic demands of the doctors who claim sole rights over a dead man's body.

All that is asked is that Israelis and all tourists travelling in Israel (which are also affected by this situation) be given their democractic rights and that human dignity should be considered before research grants.

As Canadians we can be most influential by calling upon the leaders of the Canadian Hadassah organization to listen to this humanitarian plea and urge the hospital in Jerusalem to adopt a policy of family consent before performing an autopsy.

I am certain that if Hadassah Hospital, the champion of medical advancement in Israel, will take this initiative, other hospitals will follow.

In these few days before the Canadian Hadassah opens their convention in Toronto on Jan. 8, we as concerned Jews must besiege Hadassah to issue a convention call to Israeli hospitals, and Hadassah Hospital in particular, to end forced autopsies.

Isaac Neger
Zeirei Agudath Israel of Canada

Dear Editor:

Your report or the 33rd annual UJWF meeting stated that the retiring president, Donald Carr "raised the eyebrows of some of the 300 community leaders" with his suggestion of a lottery or levy on Bar Mitzvahs to help defray education deficits.

A communal lottery is undignified and hardly a proper way to finance education and should be disregarded.

However, a levy on Bar Mitzvahs is a sound idea. Surely it is ridiculous that people should splurge thousands of dollars on a party to celebrate a boy's 13th birthday yet begrudge annual payments to defray the cost of his Jewish education.

It is time we set our priorities in order: our first responsibility is the proper education of our children as old-fashioned, yet there is no gainsaying that our educational system was producing brilliant scholars thousands of years ago when the "modern" people were murderous idolators and savages: we had a culture when the "modern" people were mired in the backwardness of the Dark Ages. Today, when the world faces chaos, our culture, imparted through Jewish education is able to give solid guidelines that can restore the world to sanity and reason and save it from destruction.

If we can afford to spend a lot of money celebrating Bar Mitzvahs and weddings, then we can afford to pay for education: so it is time that the community agreed to tax all parties: say 10% on the bill up to $2000, 20% on the next $2000 and 40% on anything above, such payments specifically for the Bureau of Jewish Education. As for funerals, Mr. Carr has a valid idea here too since some funerals are also very lavish. Surely a realistic people like us can see that our only hope for the future is the same as has preserved us till now: knowledge of our heritage. Let us therefore tax ourselves accordingly.

Charles Anthony

Dear Editor:

Although the attitude of not looking at Israel through rose colored glasses is undoubtedly valid, I do think that at the same time, you should let your readers know of work that can be done to help solve certain problems. I am particularly referring to your interview with Shaul Bensimhon discussing educational, cultural and economic gaps between Sephardi and Ashkenazi, without mentioning solutions being attempted.

For example, one Amal School, Yad Leboonim at Azo Megidof, in kibbutz country (a small but efficient new school) serves about 100 pupils from problem homes in addition to locals. The kibbutzim provides residence and these young people of both sexes, of ages 14-18 get academic and vocational training suited for life in the surrounding communities.

Another Amal School I visited, in Hadera, teaches academic and vocational subjects - mechanics, metallurgy, commercial courses - in preparation for ready employment in the surrounding industrial area. 80% of the pupils at this Amal School are Adot Hamizrach (Oriental and Sephardi). Included as an experiment are pupils from correctional institutes that were formerly not accepted in schools. Some graduates become eligible for further schooling at the Technion.

Unfortunately at present the senior schools such as these, for 14-18 year olds, are not free and tuition fees must be paid. The free school system only extends to the age of 14.

James Garfinkle
Toronto

Says PQ misinterpreted

Dear Editor:

While it is natural that Jews express certain apprehensions about the rising popularity of the "independentiste" movement in Quebec, it is certainly of no avail to exacerbate an already tense situation by presenting faulty analyses and inferring unwarranted presumptions about the Parti Quebecois.

Although in no way a "pequiste" or for that matter a believer in the cause of Quebec separation, I do tend to sympathize with some of the basic aspirations of the separatist movement and in that light, feel compelled to take issue with the analysis of Rene Levesque and his party, presented by Dr. Plaut in your paper on Dec. 10, 1971.

Rene Levesque

First, although it is true that there are certain obvious fundamental differences between the Jewish movement for national liberation and that of the Quebecois, the attempt by Dr. Plaut to illustrate these differences seems to have instead resulted in a misinterpretation of the nature of the Quebecois movement.

Levesque's party, and those to the left of it, cannot be analyzed in a social or economic-vacuum, and the assertion that they merely represent a desire to protect French cultural or linquistic survival in North America is misleading. In fact, the linguistic survival in North America is misleading. In fact, the linguistic and cultural aspect of the PQ's program is incidental to its primary goal of effecting some type of social transformation in Quebec.

Secondly, of what value is it to inform Jews of why they do (or should) feel uneasy about Levesque or his party? Is it an attempt at a subdued or sophisticated type of alarmism?

Levesque is not, nor has he ever been an anti-Semite. Certainly, there are other politicians prominent on the Quebec scene, who have in their unexplored pasts, expressed more explicit views about Jews, not always of the most complimentary nature. Could it be that these politicians, by adopting views more favorable to the economically superior English minority in Quebec, have exempted themselves from the watchful eyes of our "protectors"?

Bert Nadler
Montreal

Uncle Eliezer sees threat to our Jewish way of life if...

By J. B. SALSBERG

My uncle Eliezer phoned to say that he was terribly upset by a news item in this paper and that he must see me about it. When my uncle says that "he must", he must and within minutes he was at my home.

I found that he was disturbed by Mr. Donald Carr's proposal to tax "every Bar Mitzvah, wedding and funeral."

"What's going on in this community of ours," he asked even before he removed his rubbers. "You write articles about the Jewish poor and he talks about placing taxes on Bar Mitzvahs, weddings and, heaven forbid, funerals!"

I tried to tell him that Mr. Carr is, after all, only the outgoing president of the Toronto Jewish Welfare Fund and the tax suggestion was only his personal idea and not that of the Welfare Fund. But he assured me that he didn't come to this country yesterday, that he knows how outgoing officers often "front" for the new ones. Uncle Eliezer insisted that this "cock-eyed idea should be thrown out of the window before it explodes."

I asked him not to be disturbed by the whole thing. If a boy and a girl want to get married they will find more than one way to do it without paying a tax. As for the funeral tax they could never really enforce it. What can they do, leave the corpse in the funeral parlor? But as for Bar Mitzvahs they face a greater threat than the proposed tax. In fact their very essence is challenged and the challenge comes all the way from Israel and, believe it or not, from rabbis.

Uncle Eliezer insisted that the tax idea can disrupt our community; that he can foresee a sort of bootleg, tax-free wedding business developing and that he can predict riots at funerals if the tax collectors should bar burial proceedings. But he was interested in what I hinted about the Israeli threat to Bar Mitzvahs and I told him.

It seems that the American style, jumbo-sized, mass attended, costly and theatrically produced weddings and Bar Mitzvahs have also reached Israel. It stands to reason that Israeli parents, not unlike their North American counterparts, mortgage their homes, borrow from relatives and friends and make loans from lending institutions to pay for such spectacles. However, the difference between Israel and here is that few, if any, Israeli synagogues have dining room or banquet accommodations, so the glamorous affairs are held in privately owned catering establishments or in hotels, since they are all kosher.

Perhaps because of this rather important difference many Israeli rabbis have spoken out against what they consider to be an undesirable life-style. Now a group of 10 rabbis of the orthodox town of Bnei Brak banded together and launched a public campaign against massive, lavish Bar Mitzvahs and weddings. Their imaginative public activity has found enthusiastic approval from all sides and its effects are already apparent.

Uncle Eliezer wouldn't let me go on. "Do you realize what would happen if this Israeli influence were to be successful in our Canadian communities? Why, it would bring financial disasters to most congregations! Mortgage foreclosures would menance many existing synagogues and young congregations that started with banquet accommodations would never be able to construct the beautiful sanctuaries that they planned for the future. Our whole way of life would be affected."

Uncle Eliezer was bewildered. The vision of Bar Mitzvahs celebrated in Israel or with a modest Kiddush and a mid-day dinner at home here, appealed to him. So did the possibility of wedding ceremonies attended by many friends but followed by small and modest dinners of the two families and intimates. "But," he murmured, "such a change would create many community problems and it would alter our entire Jewish way of life."

I refilled our glasses with fresh, steaming tea and tried to raise his spirits.

"Yes, it would be a revolution," I said to him, "but like all revolutions it would meet with a lot of opposition. Think of the vested interests it would encounter; synagogue officers - especially treasurers, bands and small loans firms, the poultry business - farmers, dealers, shochtim etc., manufacturers of kishke casings, waiters' unions, wine and spirit producers, makers of baking soda and other antacid items, etc. etc. No," I continued, "It can't happen. But if the new Israeli winds of change should prevail here it will at least, remove Mr. Don Carr's threat of a tax on weddings and Bar Mitzvahs."

Uncle Eliezer was pleased. He sipped his tea and said: "Nu, chotch epes, - at least something to look forward to . . ."

National news

Looking ahead

Ended before it began?

By DR. STUART E. ROSENBERG

Education has always been an integral part of Judaism. My teacher, Salo W. Baron, has aptly described the historical process:

"Maimonides, the great philosopher, jurist and physician, had advised the Jews to devote only three hours a day to earning a living, if at all possible, and at least nine hours more to the study of Jewish law. These counsels sank so deep into the mind of the people that most Jewish women throughout the ages dreamed of their sons becoming distinguished rabbis and scholars. With the modern secularization of life, these ambitions were directed toward the arts and sciences."

The Talmudic scholars in the shtetl of Russia and Poland have become the doctors, lawyers, engineers, and professors of North America, Western Europe, and Israel. One observer laconically observed: "The Jewish affect which puts peot (ear locks) on a child in Hungary makes a disproportionate number of Jewish youngsters at Yale University want to be doctors." A study of American Jewish youth, published in 1970, revealed what everybody seemed to know: "The proportion of Jewish college-aged youth attending schools of higher education may be as high as 75% - more than double the national average for American youth."

The Jews of Canada are little different from their American cousins in this respect, but Canadian social institutions are different. A strong, class structure traditionally kept Jews out of the college-teaching profession. In the 1940's, it was an open secret that A.M. Klein, already internationally read and widely respected, was continually unable to obtain a teaching post at McGill University, his alma mater. Times have since changed. The year 1969 marked the appointment of the first Jewish president of a Canadian university, Max Wyman at the University of Alberta in Edmonton. And several months later, in March, 1970, Ernest Sirluck, 30 years after his graduation from the University of Manitoba, was appointed its president - the second Canadian Jew to head a university.

These new facts of Canadian life help explain the entrance of Jews into the academic world as a very new, very current, and very unexpected phenomenon. They also reflect another social development - the growing movement away from small shopkeeping and retail stores, which had characterized the older generation, and the increasing entry of the younger generation into new professional responsibilities, previously almost unavailable to Jews in Canada.

Paradoxically, all of these budding break-throughs are coming to the fore in the Seventies, a strange and unpredictable period for formal education and its inherited institutions - the schools, colleges, and universities. University degrees are regarded more and more as "union cards" necessary for job purposes; graduate studies are seen as wasted efforts only helping to create frustration by overqualifying successful degree-winners. The Protestant work ethic, which Jews had historically transposed and sublimated into an "education ethic," is now doubly repudiated - both by the "seekers" and by the "knowers"; by those who have dropped out of schools and by those who have joylessly finished them.

It is too early to know what kind of rationales for education may yet emerge in the years of the decade just recently begun. But from the point of view of the historic Jewish community, there is the uncanny, even tragic spectre of an educational frontier closing for them in Canada just as it was beginning to open up. Has an era ended just as it opened?

Students stress plight of Jews in Arab lands

(From our Montreal Bureau)

MONTREAL -

A four-day student conference at Stanstead, Que., organized by the Canadian Union of Jewish Students saw 160 young people from 10 countries discuss the "physical, cultural, and spiritual oppression" of the Jewish people.

Joel Harris, 28, educational director of the world union in England, said the conference was a "chance for students all over the world not only to share the insights and experiences of fellow Jews, but to talk about the redemption of Jews in Soviet, Oriental, and Arab lands, and to discuss and analyze the deeper issues in Jewish life". The conference, called Struggle and Redemption, was the first of its kind to use simultaneous translation.

"Redemption is necessary," explained Harris, "when Jews are deprived of the awareness of their peoplehood and are in a state of exile".

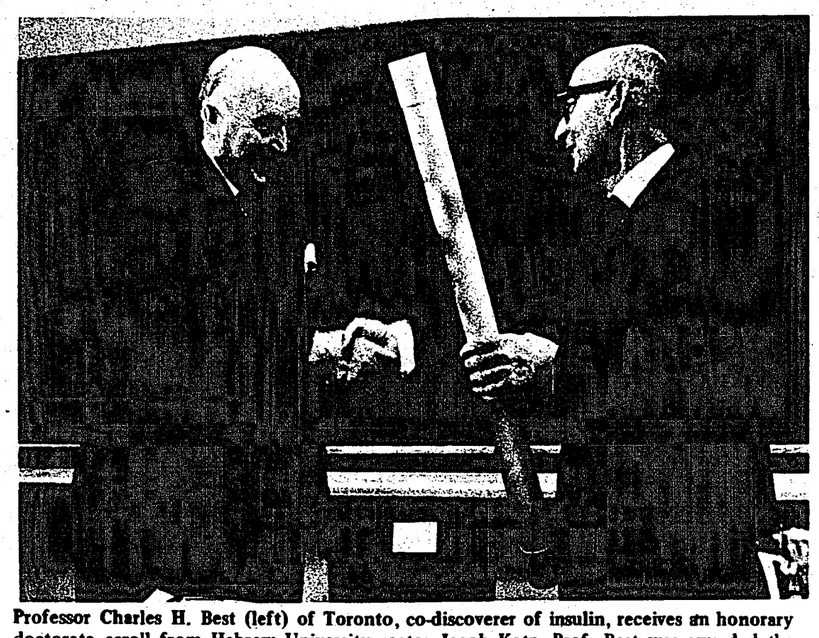
Veteran Israeli diplomats Yehoshua Pratt, consul for Israel in New York, and Emanuel Shimoni, consul in Ottawa, led discussions on the status of Jews in Oriental and Slavic lands.

"In Syria," said Harris, "treatment of Jews is uniquely horrible. They torture prisoners, and in most cases do not even admit they are holding Jews."

Reports reaching London tell of a systematic program of torture and persecution launched against Syrian Jews. The windows of Damascus synagogues have been smashed and seven Jewish homes in that city have been set on fire in a single week. Jews have been tortured and imprisoned for attempting to escape from the city.

"There is a commandment," Harris continued, "which states Jews have a responsibility to redeem those Jews who are held captive, and during Roman times, or during the Middle Ages, it was simply a matter of paying a ransom."

Harris, a Ph.D. candidate in psychology, said that today we cannot use the "classical calculus" to redeem Jews, because Russia and Syria refuse to acknowledge the captivity of Jews in those lands.



Professor Charles H. Best (left) of Toronto, co-discoverer of insulin, receives an honorary doctorate scroll from Hebrew University rector Jacob Katz. Prof. Best was awarded the degree at the Hebrew University where a seminar was held to mark the 50th anniversary of the discovery of insulin.

Meir attacks news media over charges of scandal

TEL AVIV (JTA-JCNS) -

The Labor Party leadership supported Premier Golda Meir in her criticism of the news media for casting "wild aspersions" on public figures mentioned in connection with a series of alleged scandals in government-owned companies. The party leaders echoed Mrs. Meir's pledge that the allegations which are currently under investigation by official bodies would be pursued without favoritism. She sharply criticized the mass media for having published allegedly "wild charges and personal attacks on public office holders without foundation."

Mrs. Meir was especially angry over charges against Justice Minister Yaacov Shimshon Shapiro and Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir. Shapiro has been accused in some quarters of delaying an investigation into the affairs of Netivei Neft, the government-owned company drilling oil in the Sinai. Sapir has been mentioned in testimony before the Knesset finance committee concerning the bankrupt Autocar Co. and Vered, the water resources development company. The government-owned firms have been charged with mismanagement, corruption and fraudulent bookkeeping. Mrs. Meir's attack on the press included the Histadrut newspaper, **Davar**, which she said, was "not different from any other paper."

Timid 4-year-old enjoys playing with educational toys

today's child

By HELEN ALLEN

If you were looking for a picture to illustrate a story about a child with no parents, you couldn't find anything more appropriate than this wistful one of Hughie. Four year old Hughie does not realize he is a little boy without a family, but he does know he has a problem - very poor eyesight.

At first, it was feared his sight would become even worse and that he would become blind. This does not now appear to be the case, because his vision is improving, if anything. He can see well enough to appreciate children's television programs, and to look at picture books, holding them very close to his face.

Like most small boys, Hughie delights in playing with cars. He enjoys music and often dances to records. Nonetheless, he has many frustrations over things he can't understand or can't cope with because he doesn't see them properly.

His difficulties have made Hughie a timid youngster, very dependent on his foster family. But he has been attending a special nursery school with help from the Canadian National Institute for the Blind where his teacher says he is making great progress. Certainly it is helping him to become more relaxed and self-confident. He is eager to tackle the educational toys and is proud of his accomplishments.

This dear small fellow needs special parents - parents who will meet the challenge of helping a child with a disability to live as normal a life as possible. He should be the youngest or the only child in a family.

To inquire about adopting Hughie, please write to Today's Child, Box 888, Station K, Toronto.

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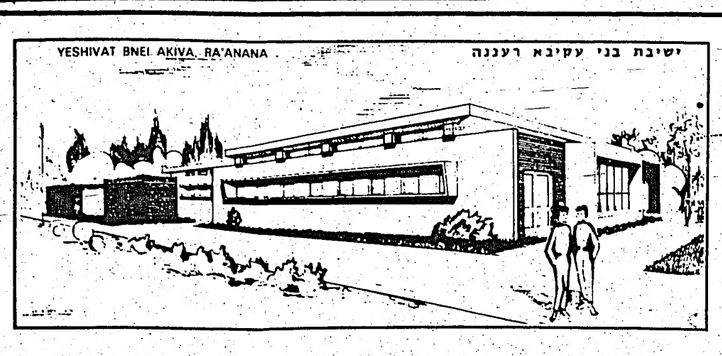

YESHIVAT BNEI AKIVA

Dining-Room dedicated in Bnei Akiva Yeshiva High School in Ra'anana, Israel.

Dr. Z. Warhaftig, Minister of Religion in his moving address praised the College Memorial Chapel, Toronto for their far-sighted involvement in giving assistance to this project.

Rabbi Neria, a member of the Knesset, and head of a chain of 22 Yeshivot, emphasized the need for Torah learning.

These various vocational and academic centres are in strategic locations throughout Israel.

Sam Cohen, President of College Memorial Chapel, David Green, Vice President, Alfred Mend and Julius Wiener were instrumental in this effort.

This space donated by N. Sokol.

NEW ONE WEEK HOLIDAYS

From Jan. 15 to Mar. 31, the international airlines will have new low cost group fares for holidays of one week duration. You can now go on a ski holiday to Austria or Switzerland, a theatre tour to London or Moscow, or just enjoy a leisurely holiday to break up the winter.

Of course we still have a wide selection of excellent packages to the Bahamas, Florida, Mexico, and Aruba for one week – and Barbados, Jamaica, Hawaii, Puerto Vallarta, and the Canaries for 2 weeks.

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BATHURST – LAWRENCE. $37,000. Just listed - 6 room bungalow plus pannelled rec. room, master ensuite. Spotless condition. Close to shopping, schools, and transportation. New roof, new kitchen. Many expensive extras. Exclusive. Call Mrs. Sally Gold, Canada Permanent Trust Co. Realtor, 789-7351 or 922-9990.

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BENRUBI, RIFKA – on Dec. 29, late of 46 Artreeva Dr.
FELDMAN, HYMAN – on Jan. 1, late of 24 Corwin Ave.
FREEDMAN, DAVID – on Jan. 1, late of 24 Sunfield Rd.
GREEN, JACK – on Dec. 28, late of 107 Kennard Ave.
GOLDBERG, RACHEL – on Jan. 3, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
GOODMAN, REBECCA – on Jan. 2, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
HIMMEL, LISA – on Dec. 31, late of 64 McRoberts Ave.
JACOBS, MARGARET – on Jan. 2, late of 26 Risa Blvd.
KARTEN, KAROLYN – on Dec. 26, formerly of Toronto
KOLB, NICHOLAS – on Jan. 1, late of 59 Isabella St.
LUCKI, NINA – on Dec. 28, late of 111 Raglan Ave.
MOSTER, RAISEL – on Jan. 1, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
PEARLMAN, MORRIS – on Jan. 2, late of 474 Palmerston Ave.
PLENER, YETTA – on Dec. 30, late of 7 Forestwood Ave.
ROTENBERG, TOBY – on Dec. 3, late of 790 Eglinton Ave. W.
SHERMAN, IRVING – on Dec. 29, late of 104 Clifton Ave.
SPIVAK, JACK – on Jan. 2, late of 29 Reiner Rd.
STEIN, ZINDEL – on Jan. 1, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
STEPAK, HARRY – on Dec. 31, late of 83 Shelborne Ave.
STERN, BETTY – on Dec. 28, late of 56 Bainbridge Ave.

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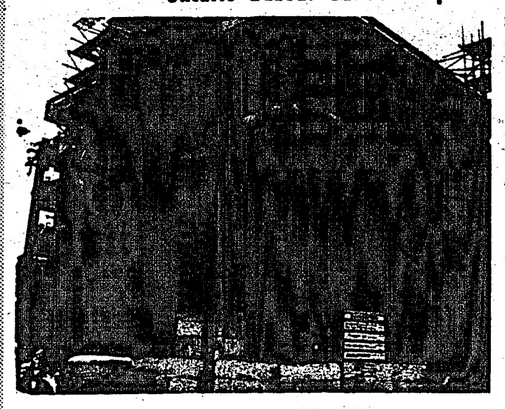
Ontario Labour Builds Hospital in Israel



The Bnei Brak hospital is an impressive six-storey structure which serves a population of 120,000 people. Over $100,000 was raised to help build the hospital by contributions from Ontario Trade Unions and two Testimonial Banquets honouring labour leaders Fred Dowling and George Burt.

The Ontario Trade Union Council for Histadrut, under the chairmanship of Mr. David B. Archer, President of the Ontario Federation of Labour, spearheaded the drive for funds. President of the Canadian Trade Union Council for Histadrut is Max Federman, Manager of the Furriers' Union in Toronto and active communal worker.

$115,500 Bequeathed to Israel

In response to the first appeal to provide for Israel's future welfare through bequests in wills, the sum of $115,500 has been bequeathed for projects in Israel established by the Histadrut and Perpetual Amal Scholarships that will perpetuate the donor's name.

J.J. Zweig Youth Seminary in Israel

The dedication of a Youth Seminary in Bet Berl, Israel, bearing the name of J.J. Zweig, veteran leader of the Labour Zionist Movement, will take place March 2, 1972. To honour Mr. Zweig on the occasion of his 75th birthday and Mr. and Mrs. Zweig's 50th Wedding Anniversary, a special committee pledged to raise $50,000 to complete the Seminary, which was built by the Histadrut. Mr. Zweig's son, Robert, will travel to Israel for the dedication ceremony.

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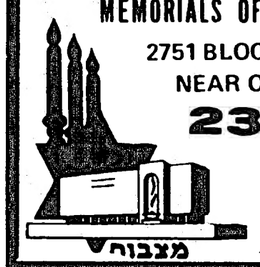

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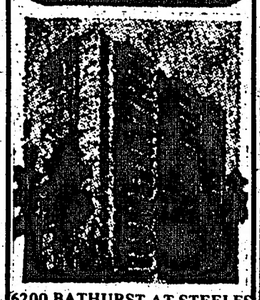

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Shown here from left to right are: Nolan Jacobs, President of Yavneh, R. Karoly, Rabbi Burak, Cong. President L. Waxman, Brotherhood President M. Weinles, Cong. Vice President M. Karoly, and S. Faivish.

The following were the organizers of the Yavneh Convention which was held at Beth Jacob V'Anshe Dridz Synagogue, Toronto, from Wed. Dec. 22nd to Sun. Dec. 26th.

Robert Karoly, President of Yavneh, who should be commended for his efforts in making this convention possible, Larry Krausse, Irving Karoly, Daphna Munk, Jerry Faivish, Gary Kopstick, Perry Simon, Sam Sigdor, Ruth Smaye, Renee Berk, Abie Rosenberg, Nolan Jacobs, Tsippi Shiff, Frances Zimmerman.

Guest speakers were Dr. Rabbi Moses Burak, spiritual leader of Beth Jacob V'Anshe Drildz Synagogue, Rabbi Bulka, Ottawa, and Rabbi Grunblatt from New York.

Approximately 300 attended, mostly university students, and the convention consisted of seminars, spiritual sessions and fun activities. One hundred were from Toronto and the balance from various cities, including Baltimore, Montreal, Buffalo, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Boston, Miami, Chicago, New York and Ottawa. The visitors were billeted mostly in the homes of Beth Jacob V'Anshe Drildz Synagogue members, and other homes. A hearty thanks to them.

The catering was done by Greenberg Caterers.

Special thanks are due to the President of Beth Jacob V'Anshe Drildz Synagogue, Mr. L. Waxman, and the board members for their financial and other assistance and for making the Synagogue available. Special thanks to Brotherhood President, Mr. M. Weinles, for the Sunday breakfast for the students of the Convention and the Synagogue members.

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The Million Dollar Club is a project of Mizrachi Hapoel Women's Organization to raise large amounts of money for the dormitories in B'nei Brak.

This is one of the large complex of buildings named in honour of Rabbanit Sarah Herzog. It is supported by Great Britain, United States as well as Canada. The up-to-date vocational school, which was recently dedicated is now in use; the dormitories and staff buildings are nearing completion.

Mrs. Lil Kurtz and Mrs. Bertha Sokol are Co-Chairmen of this project, while Mrs. M Weisbrod is Toronto Council President. Paid-up members will have their names inscribed on the Pillar of Faith in the building.

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JERUSALEM (JCNS) -

A rabbinical coup in which Rabbi Bezalel Zolti was "appointed" communal rabbi of Jerusalem - a post vacant for more than 10 years since the death of Rabbi Zvi Pesach Frank - has been denounced as "an unlawful act opposed to public order" by the Interior Committee of the Knesset.

The appointment and induction of Rabbi Zolti took place with the support of members of the Chief Rabbinate court, heads of yeshivas, and distinguished rabbis from Jerusalem and district with Agudist rabbis strongly represented.

The move has been forcefully attacked by National Religious Party rabbis and by Dr. Zerah Warhaftig, the Minister for Religious Affairs.

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FILMS:
The Garden of the Finzi-Continis. A wealthy Italian Jewish family is slowly sucked into the ugly realities of the Second World War as the walls of their private and unapproachable world come tumbling down. Vittorio de Sica's lovely and mistily-photographed film is at the New Yorker.

LITTLE THEATRE:
Cabbagetown Plays. A trio of very pleasant new one-act plays by David Tipe looks at man's need to fantasize even if the outcome is often bittersweet. At the Tarragon Theatre.

MUSEUMS:
Krieghoff and His Contemporaries. There's something very warm and satisfying about Kreighoff's paintings of rural 18th century Quebec. They can be seen at the Royal Ontario Museum until March 11.

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